

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Centers, et al.  
Title: "Separation System For Single Stream Compressed Recyclables"  
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned Filed: 09/24/03  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
Attorney Docket No.: Titus-P001

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Menlo Park, California  
September 24, 2003

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL BECAUSE OF APPLICATION RELATING TO  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
(37 CFR 1.102 and MPEP § 708.02)**

Applicants hereby petition to make this application special because of special status for applications relating to environmental quality.

**1. Accompanying Material:**

Accompanying this petition is:

(1) A Declaration of Facts in Support of Petition to Make Special because of Application relating to environmental quality.

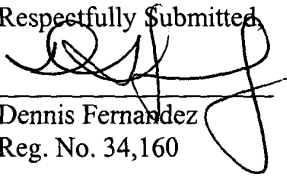
(2) Fee (37 CFR 1.102(c))

No Fee is required by this petition. However, the Commission is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required, or credit any payment to Deposit Account 500482.

(3) A return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the receipt date of the above documents and returned to the addressee as soon as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dennis Fernandez', written over a horizontal line.

Dennis Fernandez  
Reg. No. 34,160

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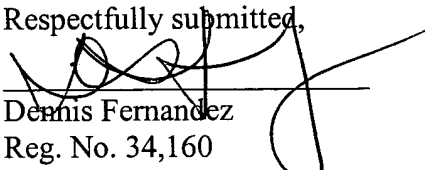
**PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL BECAUSE OF APPLICATION RELATING TO  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
(37 CFR 1.102 and MPEP § 708.02)**

I, Dennis Fernandez, declare as follows:

1. I am the managing partner with the firm of Fernandez & Associates LLP, 1047 El Camino Real, Suite 201, Menlo Park, CA 94025.
2. I am registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and my registration number is 34,160.
3. I am a listed patent attorney for the above-cited Patent Application that was filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
4. I have analyzed information in the presently claimed invention filed on 09/24/03.

5. In my opinion, the present application is entitled to a Special Status because the invention disclosed and claimed in the above Patent Application is related to environmental quality.
6. Based on my searches and analysis, I determine that:
  - a) the subject matter of the patent application is related to environmental quality; and
  - b) the development of the technology will be significantly impaired if examination of the patent application is delayed because the invention relates to apparatus and methods used for processing single-stream commingled recyclable materials. The technology enhances environmental quality as it provides a method to reduce landfill by separating recyclable materials.
7. To the best of my knowledge, all claims now pending in the above-cited Patent Application are allowable over prior art of which I am aware of.
8. I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 to Title 18 of the United States Codes, and that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis Fernandez  
Reg. No. 34,160